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# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 2 May 51

SUBJECT 1. DDR Price Schedule for Nonferrous Metals  
2. Refinement of Nickel Ore

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

1. A new price schedule for nonferrous metals is being worked out by the metallurgical division of the DDR Ministry of Heavy Industry. The basic prices have been established, but adjusted prices for specific items have not yet been set. In all cases, prices have been substantially advanced, in certain instances up to 800 percent. The following are the new basic prices on some metals:

Copper scrap	DM 5,400.00	per ton
Copper cathodes	6,000.00	" "
Lead	<u>2,000.00</u>	" "
Tin	29,000.00	" "
Zinc	3,000.00	" "
Cobalt	<u>1,300.00</u>	" "
Bismuth	1,700.00	" "

2. In January 1951, the VVB Dunitmetall accepted from DANIA-Metall a shipment of 1,572 tons of nickel ore. The ore came from Petsamo, Finland, by way of Norway to Rostock. It was delivered to Hüttenwerk Halsbrücke for smelting and was processed further at Nickelhüttenwerke Aue and Oberschlema. The smelting process was as follows:

- a. Hüttenwerk Halsbrücke - reduction to nickel matte in smelter.
- b. Hüttenwerk Oberschlema - stamping, grinding and roasting of nickel matte.
- c. Hüttenwerk Aue - remelting of roasted nickel matte to produce nickel speiss.
- d. Hüttenwerk Oberschlema - stamping grinding and roasting of nickel speiss.
- e. Hüttenwerk Oberschlema - production of pure nickel and nickel salts.

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The reduction process has been estimated to cost DM 3,000.00 per 100 kilograms of pure nickel. The 1,572 tons of ore yielded pure metal at the rate of 4.6 percent, on the basis of the reduction of 40 percent of the ore. This 40 percent yielded 29 tons of metal, which would bring the total to 72.3 tons for the entire lot of ore. Another lot of nickel ore consisting of 1,800 tons is lying at Muldenhütten. This lot runs at only 3.3 percent of refined nickel.

3. VVB-Vesta is soon to be divided into Vesta-Nord and Vesta-Süd. Berlin will become the headquarters for Vesta-Nord, while Leipzig will be headquarters for Vesta-Süd.

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